

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 018810

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DRAFTED BY: NSF/OIP:RFHULL

APPROVED BY: OES/APT/SEP:WAROOT

NSF/OIP:BBARTOCHA

OES/APT/SEP:WFDECLERCQ

EUR/EE:TPHDUNLOP

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST NIACT IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OSCI, RO

SUBJECT: MID-TERM REVIEW TALKS: NSF/NCST PROGRAM.

REF: A. BUCHAREST 0363

B. HULL MEMO TO ROOT, DECEMBER 29, 1975.

1. BARTOCHA APPRECIATES AMBASSADOR'S ASSESSMENT OF PROBLEMS OF NSF/NCST PROGRAM AS TYPIFYING ACUTELY THE GENERAL DRIFT OF PROBLEMS OF US/GOR EXCHANGES. AS ANY AGENCY WITH DOMESTIC MISSION, NSF MUST JUSTIFY TO CONGRESS ITS REQUEST FOR FUNDS FOR SUPPORT OF FOREIGN RELATIONSHIPS ON GROUNDS OF ADVANCEMENT OF DOMESTIC OBJECTIVES. THE CIRCUMSTANCES OUTLINED IN REFERENCE B SEVERELY CURTAIL THE CAPACITY OF THE NSF/NCST PROGRAM TO CONTRIBUTE TO THESE OBJECTIVES. NSF'S ABILITY TO DEFEND ITS REQUESTS FOR APPROPRIATIONS IN SUPPORT OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE VENTURES IS JEOPARDIZED IN CIRCUMSTANCES SUCH AS EXIST AT PRESENT WITH ROMANIA. THE FACT OF AN UNPROFITABLE RELATIONSHIP WITH ONE COUNTRY MAY LEAD TO UNWARRANTED ADVERSE CRITICISM OF FOUNDATION'S TOTAL INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS. THIS IS AN EVENTUALITY WHICH NSF EARNESTLY WISHES TO AVOID.

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PAGE 02 STATE 018810

2. BARTOCHA IS GRATIFIED BY AMBASSADOR'S OFFER TO CONVEY VIEWS TO GLIGA JANUARY 26. THAT OCCASION APPEARS SUPERIOR TO THE TALKS THEMSELVES AS OPPORTUNITY FOR GLIGA TO BE MADE AWARE OF THE BASIS FOR CONCERN IN WASHINGTON AS TO TO THE VIABILITY OF A CONTINUING RELATIONSHIP. AMBASSADOR MAY OF COURSE CITE FROM REFERENCE B, STRONGLY STRESSING THE PRINCIPLE OF THE NSF/NCST AGREEMENT FOR MUTUALITY OF INTEREST AND BENEFIT, AND EQUALITY OF CONTRIBUTION.

3. OWING TO THE CHANGE IN DATES OF THE MID-TERM REVIEW TALKS, BARTOCHA WILL BE UNABLE TO PARTICIPATE. HIS PRESENCE WAS EARLIER COMMITTED ELSEWHERE DURING A PERIOD SURROUNDING THE PRESENT MID-TERM REVIEW DATES. AMBASSADOR MAY EXPRESS TO GLIGA BARTOCHA'S REGRET AT HIS INABILITY TO CONFER DIRECTLY ON MEANS OF RESTORING NSF/NCST PROGRAM TO A WORKABLE AND MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL STATE. IT IS PRESENTLY EXPECTED THAT THE SENIOR NSF REPRESENTATIVE AT THE TALKS WILL BE DR. JOHN V. GRANGER, DEPUTY ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR SCIENTIFIC, TECHNOLOGICAL, AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS. SISCO

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